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ANONYMOUS GIFT

A Strange Report of Sixe most notorious

VVitches, who by their diuelish practises
murdered about the number of foure
hundred small Children: besides the
great hurtes they committed vpon
diuers other people:



Who for the same, and many other like offences,
were executed in the princely Cittie of
Manchen in high Germanie the.29.
of Iuly. 1600.

Printed at Nuremberge by Lucas Mayr Ingrauer, dwel-
ling in *Kramergesse*: and now translated out of
Dutch, according to the same Coppy
there imprinted.

R

B



AT LONDON,
Printed by W. W. for T. Pauier, dwelling
at the signe of the Cat and Parrets
neare the Exchange.

1601.

W. W.

J. J.
W. W.

2424.5.95

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*Anonymous gift
for
Humanities*



The strange Report of

Sixe most notorious VVitches.



Here is not anie Christian (I am sure) but in heart will relent, and with great admiration, lift vp his eyes toward heauen, and stande amazed at the wicked practises of sixe of the most notorious wicked Witches that euer they heard of: who (giuing both bodies and soules to eternall damnation) committed so many inhumaine Murders, so many strange Robberies, Pillages, and Riottes; spoyling both Corne and Cattle: causing strange hayle and tempest, and such like annoyances to the inhabitantes of Germanie, that I thinke it a matter worthy to be kept in memorie, whereby the shamefull end of such malafactors, may serue as a notable example to our eyes, a grieue to the godly, and a terrour to the wicked and reprobate people. The names of these vile offendours, and of their wicked dealings, hereafter followeth.

Al. ii.

First,

242.45.95

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A strange Report of

First, Paule Gamperle, *alias* Poppinhamor.

Second, Anne Gamperle, wife to the said Paule.

Third, Simon Gamperle, }
Fourth, Iacob Gamperle, } their two Sonne's.

Fifth, Wilrich Scheltibaum, Hermodour.

Sixth, George Smallts, Taylor.

These six persons, being many yeeres (before this) heide in great suspition for practising the craft, yet not any sufficient proove thereof, were now taken altogether, neare to the house of Detwenge, in a Cave or Vault doore in the wall where many times before they had hid themselves, and as they thought, there to remaine till they were from the knowledge of their neighbours, and their accustomed practises: and by their being thus trapped to great a shame or tempest in the Townes and Villages were greatly troubled thereby: But God was not willing that they should continue so long in such a place, all their actions so long, and by the means of a Dogge which was there, and by the tempest which was then, they were forced to the said Cave, and by the means of a fire which was then, they were forced to the said Cave, and by the means of a fire which was then, they were forced to the said Cave.

Sixe most notorious VVitches.

chen, who finding them guiltie by their examinations, commaunded them to prison.

But now marke what happened : the Gouvernours Clarke or Secretarie, when he tooke paper in his hand to make a Warrant, sodaynely both his feete were taken from him : by reason whereof he had such a fall, that the huckle bone of his thigh was broken out of ioynt, whereof within three dayes after he dyed.

Hereupon the Gouvernour commaunded them to be searcht by his Officers, where they founde hidden vnder euery one of their cloathes next to their skinnes, a bagge of Swines dounge : which being taken away, stonke so fylthely, that no man could indure the smell. And in Paule Gamperles house, (being their principall, or ring-leader) they founde a diuellish Booke of Coniuration, and the picture of a man made in Tinne, holding in his hande a scroole or writing, conteyning these three wordes, *Magell, Cumath, Hellbeza* : By the same, were so plainely manifested their wicked practises, that they immediately confessed (without any further trouble) all their murders and execrable feates that euer they had committed in their life times, as it doth well appeare hereafter.

The

Will,

242.45.95

~~*~~



A strange Report of

The Confession of Paule Gamperle.

PAule Gamperle, *alias* Poppenhamor, of the age of eight and fiftie yeres, confessed that he had bled the practise of Witch-craft from his childhood, and that he had bin trained by in the same by his olde Graundmother, a woman dead many yeres agoe.

In like maner he confessed, that he had murthered in his time by Witch-craft and sojcery, about the number of a hundred small children.

In like maner he confessed, that he had made lame and crooked ten of the richest Cittizens of Manchen, because they would not forgieue him certaine debts he owed them.

In like maner he confessed, that by Witch-craft he had made away two of his Uncles, to come by their goodes.

In like maner he confessed ten Church-robberies, fiftene Murthers by the high wayes side, robberies by night in Marchants sellers by him selfe done foure and thwentie severall times: and that no locke nor doore could withstand him, but by Witch-craft he could make it open.

Finally, he confessed that in his life time, he had by night spered eight of his neighbours houses, whereby were burned in theyr beddes both men, women, and children, to the number of fiftene: besides diuers other mischiefes by him committed, to the great annoyances of the whole Countrey.

The

A Strange Report of Sixe most notorious

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Sixe most notorious VVitches.



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Al.ii.

First,

242.45.95



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Sixth, George Smallts, Taylor.

These sixe persons, being many yeeres (before this) heide in great suspition for practising Witchcraft, yet not any sufficient prooſe thereof, were now taken altogether, neare to the Towne of Dettwenge, in a Caue or Vault deepe in the ground, where many times before they had likewise met, and as they thought, there to remaine still secure from the knowledge of their neighbours, ſel to their accustomed practises: and by their Witchcraftes rayled ſo great a ſtoꝝme or tempeſt, that all the Townes and Villages were greatly indamaged thereby: But God not ſuffering theſe vile offences to remaine any longer vndiſcouered, brought all their actions to light: and by the howling of a Dogge ſtroken madd with the fearefullnes of that tempeſt, certaine of their neighbours were brought to the ſayd Caue or Vault, where they weare all ſixe attached, and the next day, being the. xxliii. of July, were brought before the Gouernour of Man-
chen,

Sixe most notorious VVitches.

chen, who finding them guiltie by their examinations, commaunded them to prison.

But now marke what happened : the Gouvernours Clarke or Secretarie, when he tooke paper in his hand to make a Warrant, sodaynely both his feete were taken from him : by reason whereof he had such a fall, that the huckle bone of his thigh was broken out of ioynt, whereof with in thre dayes after he dyed.

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Finally, he confessed that in his life time, he had by night spered eight of his neighbours houses, whereby were burned in theyr beddes both men, women, and children, to the number of sixtene: besides diuers other mischiefes by him committed, to the great annoyances of the whole Countrey.

The

Sixe most notorious VVitches.

The Confession of Anne Gamperle.

ANne Gamperle his wiife, of the age of three-
score yeres, confessed that in her life time, she
had murdered likewise by witch-craft to the
number of a hundred small children.

In like maner she confessed, that she had deformed and made crooked, and withall murdered by
witch-craft, to the number of nineteene olde people.

In like maner she confessed, that by witch-craft
she had caused an Inkeepers wife to runne into a
hotte burning Ouen, where she burned her selfe
to death: and likewise caused the same womans
husband to be so miserably vexed, that he thrust
his head into a swelling Tubbe full of Swines
meate, and there smothered him selfe.

In like maner she confessed, that she had spoiled
Cattle in great abundance, with Corne vpon the
ground often times: and that she had set fier vpon
two Hey stacks, which had fiered a whole Village,
had not helpe of people preuented it. From the
like, God of his mercie deliuer vs all.

The

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A strange Report of

The Confession of Simon Gamperle.

Simon Gamperle their naturall sonne, of the age of two and twentie yeares, confessed that he had murdered by Witchcraft, to the number of thirtie small Children, beside sixe old folkes which he likewise made crooked and lame, and after killed.

Moreover he confessed, that he had committed nine Church robberies, foure robberies by the high way side, twelue robberies done in Marchants Ware-houses: Ryot, and Village, committed by night sixe times: spoyled with Hayle and Tempests Cattel and Groundes often times.

Moreover he confessed, that by Witch-craft he had made himselfe invincible, by which meanes, he alone set vpon sixe persons at a time, and robbed them, and after killed them euer y one: with many other practises of theft and murder, which here I omit.

The Confession of Iacob Gamperle.

Iacob Gamperle their other Sonne, of the age of one and twentie yeares, confessed that he had murdered to the number of thre score and five small Children: beside five old folkes that he had made lame and crooked, and after murdered.

Moreover, he confessed five Church robberies, ten Robberies in Marchants houses, foure Robberies

Sixe most notorious VVitches.

ries committed by the high way: fiue houses set on fire, Ryots and Thefts by night in the strætes, committed twelue seuerall times.

Moreouer he confessed, that by Witch-craft he had caused a heard of Cattell in a Tempest to be blowne into a riuer, and there drowned: and the said Tempest or storme to be so violent, that Trauellers could hardly trauell by the high way: with many other like wicked practises.

The Confession of Vllrich Schellibaum.

VLlrich Schellibaum of Dettwenge, of the age of threë scoze and eight yeares, confessed that in his life time, he had murthered by Witch-craft to the number of threë scoze and ten small children, and had made crooked and killed thirtie olde folkes.

Moreouer, he confessed Robberies in Churches, and Marchants Sellars, thefts and murthers by night, Cattell and Grounds spoyled, in such abundance and so often times, that he could not well reckon them.

The Confession of George Smaltes,

George Smaltes Taylor of Peon, of the age of fiftie yeares, confessed in his life time he had murthered to the number of thirtie sixe small Childzen, beside olde people made crooked & killed the number of fiftene: Murders by the high
B. way,

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A strange Report of

way, Robberies in Villages, Firing of Houses, Robbing of Churches, I thinke it needes not to number downe: but to conclude, it was his custome about the rest, to ransake by night dead mens graues, and to make pillage of what he there found whether it were linnen or otherwise: for badder liuers then these liue were, I thinke are not now remainning vpon the earth. Therefore let all Christians pray, that God in his mercy may blesse vs & all others, from the like practises: and to weede from the face of the earth all such like offenders as he did these, and with the like shame and punishment reward them. O God I beseeche thee.

These aforesayd confessions being taken before the Gouvernour, and other Burgesses of the Cittie of Manchen, they were arraigned, conuicted, and condemned: and vpon the nine and twentie of July were executed in this maner and forme following.

First, they were all sixe brought before the towne house of Manchen, where the Woman (being placst betwixt her two Sonnes) had both her Brestes cut off: with the which Brestes, the Executioner stroke her thre times about the face: and in like maner her two Sonnes, who sate on each side of her, were likewise beaten about the face with their mothers Brestes thre times apiece. This beeing done in the presence of many people, the Woman had sixe stripes giuen her with a whip of twisted ier: and after, had both her Armes broken with a wheele, and then set in a settle made of purpose:
her

Sixe most notorious VVitches.
her body was immediatly burnt.

After this, the other siue men-Witches, had also
siue stripes apiece, and both their Armes likewise
broken with a Wheele, and foure of them tyed vnto
a stake in the same place, and burnt: But Paule
Gamperle, the father and maister Witch of them all,
was spitted aliue, and so roasted to death, and after
had his body likewise burnt intoinders.

Thus gentle Reader, hast thou heard the life and
death of these siue most notorious and wicked Wit-
ches. For the truth wherof, let no man make doubt:
for it is not onely reported of by many men of good
sufficiencie, but translated out of the Dutch Coppy
as it was there first imprinted. Therefore let vs
all in general, fall downe vpon our knees, and with
contrite hartes, desire of his Maiestie, by whose
sufferance all theyr wicked practises were com-
mitted, that he will abate the pride and mallice of
Sathan, now reigning amongst mankind, and to
put in our hartes such strong fayth, that the
like assaultes neuer assaile vs, but that
we may serue him in perfect loue
and godlines, who is the migh-
tie King of all Kinges: to
whom be all prayse,
glory, and dominie
on, for euer.
Amen.

FINIS.

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